

WASHINGTON — On behalf of its more than 20,000 supporters in Minnesota's 4th district, The Humane Society of the United States, together with its affiliate, the Humane Society Legislative Fund, will present an award to U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum, D-Minn., for her leadership on animal protection legislation in 2010.

Rep. McCollum will receive a Humane Advocate award for earning a perfect score on the 2010 Humane Scorecard.

"Representative McCollum has been a consistent friend of animals, giving them a strong voice in the U.S. Congress," said Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of The HSUS. "Her tremendous support for animal protection across a broad range of issues is deeply valued."

Every year, the Humane Society Legislative Fund compiles a federal [Humane Scorecard](#) to provide a snapshot of animal protection issues considered by the U.S. Congress and give animal advocates a tool to assess the performance of their Senators and Representatives. The scorecard tracks key votes as well as co-sponsorship of important pro-animal bills and signing an annual letter seeking funds needed to enforce key animal welfare laws. For 2010, House ratings included votes on issues such as crush videos, primates as pets, service dogs for veterans, wild horses, and guns in parks, and cosponsorship of priority bills on puppy mills, horse slaughter, overuse of antibiotics in animal agriculture, and chimpanzees in research.

In total, 146 legislators – more than one-third of the Senate and one-quarter of the House (representing 38 states and two U. S. territories) – will receive awards for their work in 2010. To see the complete list of 2010 awardees, please click [here](#).

"Time and again, we see animal protection issues bringing Members of Congress together and bridging partisan divides," said HSLF President Michael Markarian. "We thank Rep. McCollum for her compassion and determination to ensure that our animal welfare laws reflect our basic values and attitudes shared by people across the country."

HSUS and HSLF will present the award at an event on Capitol Hill on Wednesday, March 30.

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The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization — backed by 11 million Americans, or one of every 28. For more than a half-century, The HSUS

has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education and hands-on programs. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty — On the Web at humanesociety.org.

The Humane Society Legislative Fund is a social welfare organization incorporated under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and formed in 2004 as a separate lobbying affiliate of The Humane Society of the United States. The HSLF works to pass animal protection laws at the state and federal level, to educate the public about animal protection issues, and to support humane candidates for office. On the web at hslf.org.